

# AUTO ACTION'S 2023 PRE UNITED STATES FORMULA ONE TEAM-BY-TEAM EVENT GUIDE

**THE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES MAY BE ALL DONE AND DUSTED, BUT THERE IS STILL PLENTY TO PLAY FOR AT THE UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX.**

FOR THE second time this year Formula 1 is racing in America at the familiarly twisty Circuit of the Americas.

With Red Bull back in winning form, Max Verstappen will be confident of taking a hat-trick of United States Grand Prix wins having already wrapped up a three-peat of titles.

Despite Verstappen's strong form it is McLaren with all the momentum heading to Texas.

The papaya squad has scored 104 points over the last three race weekends, more than Red Bull (74) Ferrari (70) and Mercedes (63).

Importantly Aston Martin has only scored 13 in this period, meaning the fight for fourth in the constructors championship is down to just 11 points.

Leading the charge has not been Lando Norris, but Aussie rookie sensation Oscar Piastri.

Fresh from a first podium, Piastri showed greater speed in Qatar, converting a Sprint Shootout pole into a Sprint win.

The Brighton boy also followed up the stunning Saturday with a strong second

place in the race, just 4.8s behind Verstappen.

McLaren may receive a sterner test at COTA with Ferrari and Mercedes the only teams other than Red Bull to win there in the last decade.

Mercedes will also be armed with a significant new upgrade to the W14 which could also offer a glimpse into the team's plans for 2024.

Further back in the grid AlphaTauri will be alive with Daniel Ricciardo's trademark smile back in the garage.

Ricciardo will be racing again for the first time in five races having recovered from the broken metacarpal in his left hand sustained from a Dutch Grand Prix practice crash.

It arrives at one of his favourite places Austin, which was not one of his favourite races last year when he finished 10 positions and almost 40s behind Norris.

But he is at a new team in AlphaTauri and making a second fresh start of the year.

For the second weekend in a row the Sprint format will be utilised which has never been seen at the snaky COTA circuit.



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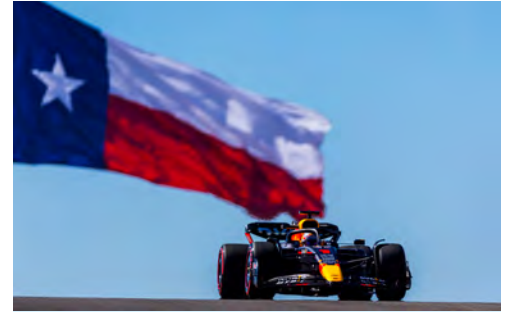
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# ROUND NINETEEN UNITED STATES GRAND PRIX - OCTOBER 20-22

FOR THE second time this year, Formula 1 is racing in America. This time the familiar Circuit of the Americas is hosting racing stateside having been part of the calendar since 2012. The constant flowing nature of left-right corners genuinely produce close and exciting racing. The pinch point at the end of a steep climb to turn one can also cause chaos.



## TRACK STATS

### QUALIFYING LAP RECORD

• Valtteri Bottas 1:32.029  
Mercedes 2019

### RACE LAP RECORD

• Charles Leclerc 1:36.169  
Ferrari SF90 2019

## TRACK FACTS



TRACK LENGTH:  
**5.513KM**



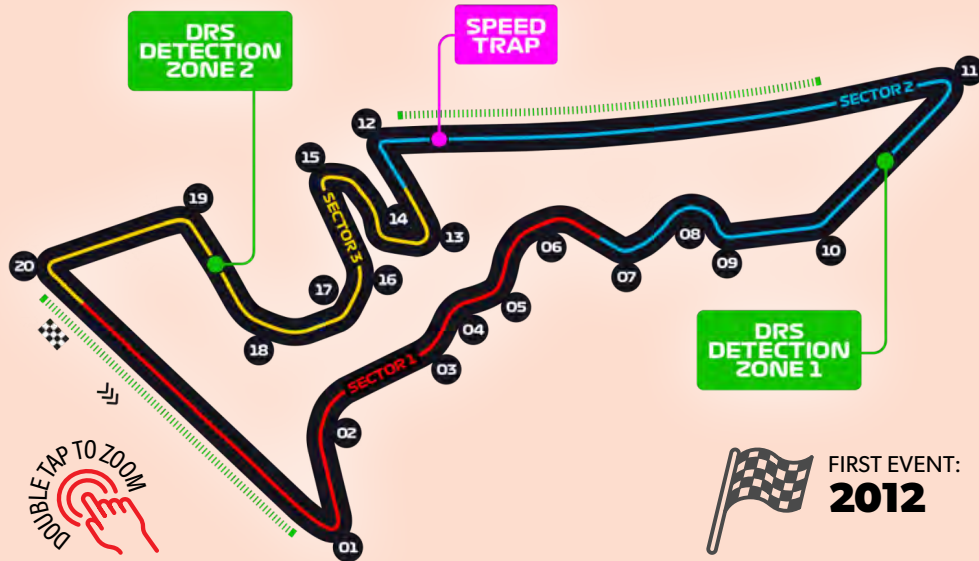
DIRECTION:  
**CLOCKWISE**



AVERAGE SPEED:  
**206.374KM/H**



TOP SPEED:  
**345.1KM/H**



## TRACK SCHEDULE (ALL TIMES AEST)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

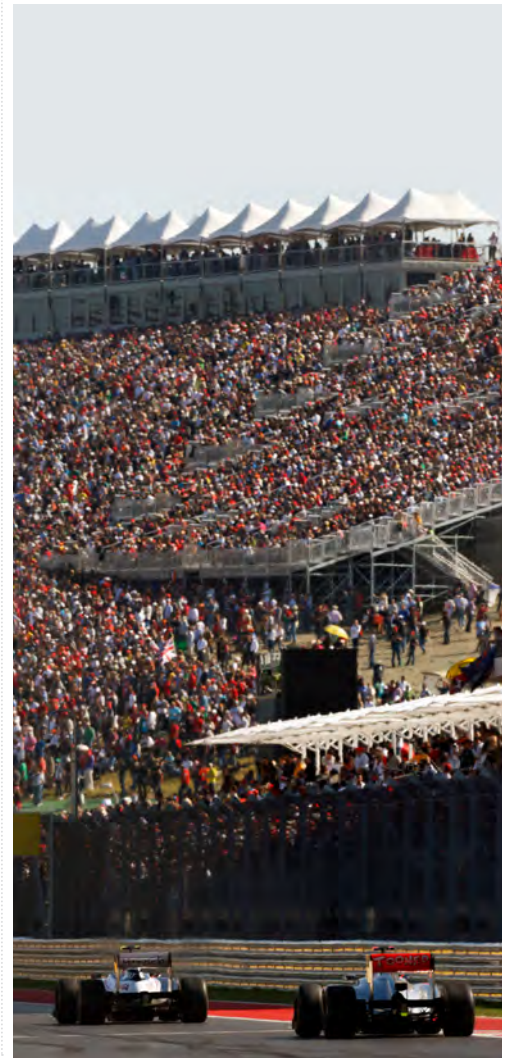
TIME	SESSION
04.30-05.30	Practice
08.00-09.00	Qualifying

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

TIME	SESSION
04.30-05.14	Sprint Shootout
09.00-10.00	Sprint

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

TIME	SESSION
06.00	Grand Prix



## LIST OF RACE RESULTS

<b>2022</b>	2 Max Verstappen	<b>2015</b>	3 Mark Webber
1 Max Verstappen	3 Lewis Hamilton	1 Lewis Hamilton	1 Sebastian Vettel
2 Lewis Hamilton	<b>2017</b>	2 Nico Rosberg	2 Romain Grosjean
3 Charles Leclerc	1 Lewis Hamilton	3 Sebastian Vettel	3 Mark Webber
<b>2019</b>	2 Sebastian Vettel	<b>2014</b>	<b>2012</b>
1 Valtteri Bottas	3 Kimi Raikkonen	1 Lewis Hamilton	1 Lewis Hamilton
2 Lewis Hamilton	<b>2016</b>	2 Nico Rosberg	2 Sebastian Vettel
3 Max Verstappen	1 Lewis Hamilton	3 Daniel Ricciardo	3 Fernando Alonso
<b>2018</b>	2 Nico Rosberg		
1 Kimi Raikkonen	3 Daniel Ricciardo		



### MOST WINS

6 Lewis Hamilton  
5 Michael Schumacher  
3 Graham Hill, Jim Clark

## 1 LIST OF POLE POSITIONS

<b>2022</b>	2 Sebastian Vettel	<b>2015</b>	2 Mark Webber
1 Carlos Sainz	3 Kimi Raikkonen	1 Nico Rosberg	3 Romain Grosjean
2 Charles Leclerc	<b>2017</b>	2 Lewis Hamilton	<b>2012</b>
3 Max Verstappen	1 Lewis Hamilton	3 Daniel Ricciardo	1 Sebastian Vettel
<b>2019</b>	2 Sebastian Vettel	<b>2014</b>	2 Lewis Hamilton
1 Valtteri Bottas	3 Valtteri Bottas	1 Nico Rosberg	3 Valtteri Bottas
2 Sebastian Vettel	<b>2016</b>	2 Lewis Hamilton	<b>2013</b>
3 Max Verstappen	1 Lewis Hamilton	3 Valtteri Bottas	1 Sebastian Vettel
<b>2018</b>	2 Nico Rosberg	<b>2013</b>	
1 Lewis Hamilton	3 Daniel Ricciardo		



### MOST POLES

4 Lewis Hamilton,  
Michael Schumacher  
3 Graham Hill

**1ST**  
433  
POINTS

**RED BULL**

**MAX VERSTAPPEN**



AGE: 25  
DEBUT: Aus 2015  
STARTS: 180  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x30)  
PODIUMS: 93  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x49)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 1.35  
BEST US GP: 1st 21,22



**TEAM PRINCIPAL CHRISTIAN HORNER**

With a hat-trick of world championships under his belt, Max Verstappen has already joined the greats and has no intentions of slowing down in 2023. Another win would see him become the just the fifth driver to score a half century of Grand Prix victories with Lewis Hamilton, Michael Schumacher, Sebastian Vettel and Alain Prost. Won last year's US GP from third on the grid.

**2ND**  
224  
POINTS

**RED BULL**

**SERGIO PEREZ**



AGE: 33  
DEBUT: Aus 2011  
STARTS: 252  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x3)  
PODIUMS: 34  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x6)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 4.69  
BEST US GP: 4th 2022



**TEAM PRINCIPAL CHRISTIAN HORNER**

The heat is on Sergio Perez after another tough weekend in Qatar. Perez had no speed compared to his teammate qualifying 13th and just hanging onto a point in the Grand Prix after being caught up in a crash in the Sprint. Has never taken a Texas podium but did rise from ninth to fourth last year.

**3RD**  
190  
POINTS

**MERCEDES**

**LEWIS HAMILTON**



AGE: 38  
DEBUT: Aus 2007  
STARTS: 327  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x104)  
PODIUMS: 196  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x103)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 4.5  
BEST US GP: 1st 07,12,14,15,16,17



**TEAM PRINCIPAL TOTO WOLFF**

Lewis Hamilton is undeniably the king of COTA. He has won more than half of the races held there, while he has only missed the podium once in 2013. On every other occasion he has walked away with a trophy. Wants to rebound from a first-lap crash with teammate in Qatar.

**4TH**  
183  
POINTS

**ASTON MARTIN**

**FERNANDO ALONSO**



AGE: 41  
DEBUT: Aus 2001  
STARTS: 372  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x22)  
PODIUMS: 105  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x32)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.47  
BEST US GP: 2nd 07



**TEAM PRINCIPAL MIKE KRACK**

Qatar was a step in the right direction for Fernando Alonso but he needs more from his Aston Martin to stay in the fight for third. Has surprisingly struggled at the United States Grand Prix at both Indianapolis and Austin with just two podiums from 16 starts in 2007 and 2012. Progressed from 14th to seventh in 2022.

**5TH**  
153  
POINTS

**FERRARI**

**CARLOS SAINZ JR**



AGE: 28  
DEBUT: Aus 2015  
STARTS: 179  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x5)  
PODIUMS: 17  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x2)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.93  
BEST US GP: 7th 2021



**TEAM PRINCIPAL FRED VASSEUR**

Carlos Sainz hopes to regain some points having missed out on the Sunday fun in Qatar. Sainz did not start the race due to an oil leak but finished sixth in the Sprint. Started from pole in Texas last year only to retire having been spun at turn one.

**6TH**  
145  
POINTS

**FERRARI**

**CHARLES LECLERC**



AGE: 25  
DEBUT: Aus 2018  
STARTS: 119  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x19)  
PODIUMS: 27  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x5)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 5.58  
BEST US GP: 3rd 2022



**TEAM PRINCIPAL FRED VASSEUR**

A string of four successive top five results has seen Charles Leclerc close in on his Ferrari teammate in the championship. Despite a disappointing Sprint, Leclerc kept the streak alive with a fifth in the GP. Put in a strong drive from 12th to the podium at COTA last year.

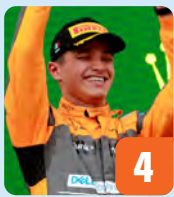
**7TH**  
136  
POINTS

**MCLAREN**

**LANDO NORRIS**



AGE: 23  
DEBUT: Aus 2019  
STARTS: 99  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
PODIUMS: 10  
BEST RESULT: 2nd (x4)  
AVG 2023 RESULT: 8.35  
BEST US GP: 6TH 2022



**TEAM PRINCIPAL ZAC BROWN**

Lando Norris carries plenty of form into his 100th Grand Prix with a hat-trick of podiums under his belt. Despite this, he is feeling the pressure from Piastri and could not compete with the Aussie at Qatar, highlighted by a costly mistake in the Sprint shootout. Aiming for a first COTA top five.

**8TH**  
132  
POINTS

**MERCEDES**

**GEORGE RUSSELL**



AGE: 25  
DEBUT: Aus 2019  
STARTS: 99  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x2)  
PODIUMS: 10  
BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 7.15  
BEST US GP: 5th 2022



**TEAM PRINCIPAL TOTO WOLFF**

Also raising the bat for a century of Grand Prix starts is George Russell. Two teammate clashes in a row have hurt the Brit, who was forced to retire from the Qatar GP. But still showed pace across the weekend, leading the Sprint until the tyres dropped away.

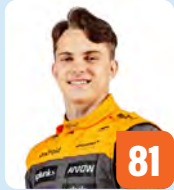
**9TH**  
83  
POINTS

**MCLAREN**

**OSCAR PIASTRI**



AGE: 21  
DEBUT: Bah 2023  
STARTS: 17  
BEST QUAL: 2nd (x1)  
PODIUMS: 2  
BEST RESULT: 2nd (x1)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 9.67  
BEST US GP: N/A



**TEAM PRINCIPAL ZAC BROWN**

Oscar Piastri became the first driver to win a race in his rookie year since Lewis Hamilton in 2007 by taking out a nail-biting Sprint in Qatar. The Aussie was strong across the entire weekend, finishing second best to Verstappen in Grand Prix having done the same in qualifying and beating him in the Shootout. Comes to COTA for the first time in hot form.

**10TH**  
47  
POINTS

**ASTON MARTIN**

**LANCE STROLL**



AGE: 24  
DEBUT: Aus 2017  
STARTS: 138  
BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
PODIUMS: 3  
BEST RESULT: 3rd (x3)  
AVG 2023 FINISH: 9.54  
BEST US GP: 12TH 2022



**TEAM PRINCIPAL MIKE KRACK**

Once again Lance Stroll heads into a race with the wrong headlines around him. Qatar was a fifth pointless weekend, while the Canadian appeared to shove his personal trainer after a disappointing Q1 exit. COTA is not his favourite, having never hit the top 10.



**11TH**46  
POINTS

ALPINE

PIERRE GASLY

AGE: 27  
 DEBUT: *Mal 2017*  
 STARTS: 125  
 BEST QUAL: 2nd (x1)  
 PODIUMS: 4  
 BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 10.36  
 BEST US GP: 12th 2018



10



TEAM PRINCIPAL BRUNO FAMIN

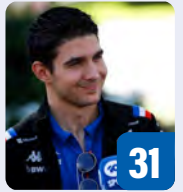
Pierre Gasly will be looking to creep into the top 10 of the championship in Texas. Gasly is just one point away from Stroll having lost his 10th place finish due to a track limits penalty in Qatar. However, 12th is the closest he has come to points in America.

**12TH**44  
POINTS

ALPINE

ESTEBAN OCON

AGE: 27  
 DEBUT: *Bel 2016*  
 STARTS: 128  
 BEST QUAL: 3rd (x2)  
 PODIUMS: 3  
 BEST RESULT: 1st (x1)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 9.7  
 BEST US GP: 6th 2027



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TEAM PRINCIPAL BRUNO FAMIN

The teammate battle at Alpine is heating up with Esteban Ocon closing in on Gasly. A seventh place at Qatar has pulled the Frenchman within striking distance of the #10. Scored a solid sixth in 2017 but since then has battled at COTA being disqualified from eighth the following year and having a mechanical related retirement in 2019.

**13TH**23  
POINTS

WILLIAMS

ALEX ALBON

AGE: 27  
 DEBUT: *Aus 2019*  
 STARTS: 76  
 BEST QUAL: 4th (x5)  
 PODIUMS: 3  
 BEST RESULT: 3rd (x2)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 11.36  
 BEST US GP: 5th 2019



23



TEAM PRINCIPAL JAMES VOWLES

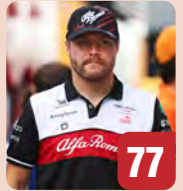
Alex Albon got some more valuable points for Williams in the Qatar Sprint race by finishing seventh but could not quite to the same on Sunday. Also finished 13th in his only COTA race for the British team after getting a top five result for Red Bull in 2019.

**14TH**10  
POINTS

ALFA ROMEO SAUBER

VALTTERI BOTTAS

AGE: 33  
 DEBUT: *Aus 2013*  
 STARTS: 217  
 BEST QUAL: 1st (x20)  
 PODIUMS: 67  
 BEST RESULT: 1st (x10)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 13.31  
 BEST US GP: 1st 2019



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TEAM PRINCIPAL ALESSANDRO ALUNNI BRAVI

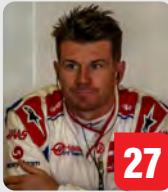
Alfa Romeo and Valtteri Bottas were a renewed force in Qatar. The Finn bounced back from a string of retirements to snag eighth, his equal best finish of the year enjoying the upgrades. Has since started a cycling race in Adelaide while he won the 2019 US Grand Prix.

**15TH**9  
POINTS

HAAS

NICO HULKENBERG

AGE: 35  
 DEBUT: *Bah 2010*  
 STARTS: 198  
 BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
 PODIUMS: 0  
 BEST RESULT: 4th (x3)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 14.38  
 BEST US GP: 6th 13,18



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TEAM PRINCIPAL GUENTHER STEINER

Nico Hulkenberg admitted he "f\*\*\*\*d up big time" in Qatar when his race was "killed" by lining up in the wrong grid position. Despite enjoying a flying start and enjoying time in the top 10, the eventual penalty ruled him out of contention.

**16TH**6  
POINTS

ALFA ROMEO SAUBER

ZHOU GUANYU

AGE: 23  
 DEBUT: *Bah 2022*  
 STARTS: 39  
 BEST QUAL: 9th (x2)  
 PODIUMS: 0  
 BEST RESULT: 8th (x1)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 13.45  
 BEST US GP: 12th 2022



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TEAM PRINCIPAL ALESSANDRO ALUNNI BRAVI

Zhou Guanyu was delighted to return to the points for the first time in 10 races at Qatar. He equalled his best finish of the year with ninth. Hopes to maximise the upgraded Alfa Romeo once again at COTA. Rose six positions at last year's race.

**17TH**3  
POINTS

ALPHATAURI

YUKI TSUNODA

AGE: 23  
 DEBUT: *Bah 2021*  
 STARTS: 58  
 BEST QUAL: 7th (x2)  
 PODIUMS: 0  
 BEST RESULT: 4th (x1)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 12.53  
 BEST USA GP: 9th 2021



22



TEAM PRINCIPAL FRANZ TOST

Although AlphaTauri was off the pace in Qatar, Yuki Tsunoda would have been pleased to get the better of super sub Liam Lawson. In their fifth race together, Tsunoda finally beat Lawson in a Grand Prix at Qatar. Has never missed the points in Austin.

**18TH**3  
POINTS

HAAS

KEVIN MAGNUSSEN

AGE: 30  
 DEBUT: *Aus 2014*  
 STARTS: 157  
 BEST QUAL: 1st (x1)  
 PODIUMS: 1  
 BEST RESULT: 2nd (x1)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 15.07  
 BEST USA GP: 8th 2014



20



TEAM PRINCIPAL GUENTHER STEINER

With an aero upgrade for the team's home race Kevin Magnussen is full of optimism, Despite losing a position and finishing 14th in Qatar Magnussen had a "positive" race. The Dane broke an American points drought stretching back to his debut season last year.

**19TH**0  
POINTS

WILLIAMS

LOGAN SARGEANT

AGE: 22  
 DEBUT: *Bah 2023*  
 STARTS: 17  
 BEST QUAL: 14th (x1)  
 PODIUMS: 0  
 BEST RESULT: 11th (x1)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 16.09  
 BEST USA GP: N/A



2



TEAM PRINCIPAL JAMES VOWLES

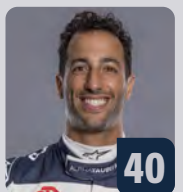
Logan Sargeant may be racing on home territory this weekend, but his F1 future is on shaky ground. Another incident in the Qatar Sprint was the latest in a growing list of mistakes, while he did not race in the Grand Prix due to illness. His home GP would be the perfect stage to show why he should stay.

**20TH**0  
POINTS

ALPHATAURI

DANIEL RICCIARDO

AGE: 34  
 DEBUT: *GB 2011*  
 STARTS: 233  
 BEST QUAL: 1st (x3)  
 PODIUMS: 32  
 BEST RESULT: 1st (x8)  
 AVG 2023 FINISH: 14.5  
 BEST USA GP: 3rd 14,16



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TEAM PRINCIPAL FRANZ TOST

Daniel Ricciardo is back on the grid and fittingly it arrives at one of his favourite places, Austin, Texas. Ricciardo has missed the last five races after breaking his hand in Dutch practice. With his future secured the pressure will be off as he starts again.